



**MAIL STOP PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No. 24857

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Group Art Unit: 1712

Erhard MUELLER, et al.

Serial No. 10/014,796

Filed: December 14, 2001

For: **SUTURE MATERIAL FOR SURGERY, PROCESSES FOR ITS PRODUCTION AND  
THE USE THEREOF**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

The Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examining on the merits the above-captioned patent application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claim 1 as per attached with this preliminary amendment. Additionally, please cancel claims 2 and 3 as indicated by the attached set of claims.



1712

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

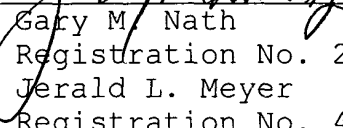
Submitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is the following:

- (1) Transmittal Letter
- (2) Preliminary Amendment

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 14-0112.

Respectfully submitted,  
**NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC**

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Date: August 29, 2003

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